

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A disposable protective undergarment arranged to be worn by a person having legs to trap and collect loose or liquid waste products of the person, said undergarment comprising a pants-shaped chassis having a front waist portion, a belly portion, a rear waist portion, a rear back portion, a crotch portion, and a pair of leg openings disposed on opposite sides of said crotch portion, with said crotch portion being located between said leg openings and having a front section and a rear section, said front waist portion and said rear waist portion being joined together at the sides of said chassis, said belly portion and said rear back portion being joined together at the sides of said chassis, each of said leg openings having a high-cut concave edge portion at said front section, a convex edge portion at said rear section and an intermediate edge portion along said crotch portion, said concave edge portion of one of said leg openings ~~being of complementary shape to and~~ said convex edge portion of said one of said leg openings matching each other along their lines of curvature, said concave edge portion of the other of said leg openings ~~being of complementary shape to and~~ said convex edge portion of said other of said leg openings matching each other along their lines of curvature, whereupon when said undergarment is worn said undergarment covers a substantial portion of the wearers leg beneath the buttocks, while a substantial portion of the wearer's leg where the leg meets the torso is exposed.
2. (Original) The disposable protective undergarment of claim 1 wherein each of said leg openings is elasticized.
3. (Original) The disposable protective undergarment of claim 2 wherein each of said leg openings is elasticized by at least one elastic thread extending along said concave edge portion, said convex edge portion and along said intermediate edge portion.
4. (Original) The disposable protective undergarment of claim 1 additionally comprising a plurality of transversely extending elastic threads in said front waist portion, said belly portion and said rear waist portion.
5. (Original) The disposable protective undergarment of claim 3 additionally comprising

a plurality of transversely extending elastic threads in said front waist portion, said belly portion and said rear waist portion.

6. (Original) The disposable protective undergarment of claim 1 additionally comprising an absorbent core.

7. (Original) The disposable protective undergarment of claim 5 additionally comprising an absorbent core and an insert sheet, and wherein certain ones of said transversely extending elastic threads intersect with said elastic threads of said leg openings to form an enclosed, gasketed compartment for said liquid absorbent core to prevent the egress of liquid therefrom.

8. (Original) The protective undergarment of claim 7 wherein said transversely oriented elastic threads comprise two first groups and two second groups, a first one of said two first groups being located in said front waist portion and a second one of said first two groups being located in said rear waist portion, a first one of said two second groups being located in said belly portion and a second one of said two second groups being located in said rear back portion, and wherein said transversely oriented threads of said first groups are spaced closer to one another than said transversely oriented threads of said second groups.

9. (Original) The protective undergarment of claim 1 wherein said crotch portion is a separate member having a pair of sides and a pair of ends, one of said ends being secured to said belly portion and the other of said ends being secured to said rear waist portion.

10. (Original) The protective undergarment of claim 9 wherein each of said leg openings is elasticized by at least one elastic thread extending along said concave edge portion, by at least one elastic thread extending along said convex edge portion and by at least one elastic thread extending along said an associated one of said pair of sides of said rectangularly shaped member.

11. (Original) The protective undergarment of claim 10 wherein said separate member forming said crotch portion is of generally rectangular shape.

12. (Original) The protective undergarment of claim 11 additionally comprising a

plurality of transversely extending elastic threads in said front waist portion, said belly portion and said rear waist portion.

13. (Original) The protective undergarment of claim 10 additionally comprising a plurality of transversely extending elastic threads in said front waist portion, said belly portion and said rear waist portion.

14. (Original) The protective undergarment of claim 1 wherein said chassis comprises a non-woven material.

15. (Original) The protective undergarment of claim 14 wherein said non-woven material comprises spunbond polypropylene.

16. (Original) The protective undergarment of claim 1 additionally comprising a core formed of a highly moisture absorbent material.

17. (Original) The protective undergarment of claim 16 additionally comprising a fluid acquisition layer disposed over said core.

18. (Original) The protective undergarment of claim 14 additionally comprising a core formed of a highly moisture absorbent material.

19. (Original) The protective undergarment of claim 18 additionally comprising a fluid acquisition layer disposed over said core.

20. - 33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) A disposable protective undergarment having a pants-shaped chassis comprising:

a front section and a rear section each having an upper waist edge and a lower leg edge and two sides extending between said upper waist edge and said lower leg edge, said front and rear sections being joined together at their sides;

a crotch portion disposed intermediate said front section and said rear portion; and

a pair of leg openings disposed on opposite sides of said crotch portion, each of said leg openings having a substantially S-shaped arcuate edge portion at said front section with a concave recess forming a high cut upper portion of the leg openings, a substantially S-shaped arcuate edge portion at said rear section with a convex projection forming a lower portion of the leg openings, and an intermediate edge portion along said crotch portion;

said concave edge portion of one of said leg openings and said convex edge portion of said one of said leg openings being shaped from a single web along a single cut line;

whereupon when said undergarment is worn said undergarment covers a substantial portion of a wearer's leg beneath the buttocks, while a substantial portion of the wearer's leg where the leg meets the torso is exposed.